### APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

# TOWN OF DAVIE TOWN COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

**TO:** Mayor and Councilmembers

**FROM/PHONE:** Gary P. Shimun, Town Adminsitrator

**PREPARED BY:** Russell C. Muniz, Town Clerk

**SUBJECT:** Resolution

**AFFECTED DISTRICT:** Town-wide

ITEM REQUEST: Schedule for Council Meeting

TITLE OF AGENDA ITEM: A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF DAVIE SUPPORTING THE SEND YOUR SALES TAX TO SCHOOL PROGRAM BY ENCOURAGING BUSINESSES TO DIRECT SALES TAX COLLECTION ALLOWANCES TO THE "EDUCATIONAL ENHANCEMENT TRUST FUND FOR CLASSROOM TECHNOLOGY," AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

**REPORT IN BRIEF:** Businesses can now direct sales tax collection allowances to classroom technology just by checking a box on sales tax remittance forms. These funds will be used by the Broward County School Board to purchase up-to-date classroom technology and provide teacher training in the use of that technology. From June 30, 2005 to July 1, 2006, \$61 million in collection allowances were retained by Florida sales tax collectors. It is anticipated that this program will generate between \$4 and \$6 million annually for Broward County Schools.

**PREVIOUS ACTIONS:** N/A

**CONCURRENCES:** N/A

FISCAL IMPACT: not applicable

Has request been budgeted? n/a

If yes, expected cost: \$

Account Name:

If no, amount needed: \$

What account will funds be appropriated from:

Additional Comments:

 $\label{eq:RECOMMENDATION} \textbf{RECOMMENDATION(S):} \ \ \text{Motion to approve the resolution.}$ 

**Attachment(s):** Resolution

R-2008
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A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF DAVIE SUPPORTING THE SEND YOUR SALES TAX TO SCHOOL PROGRAM BY ENCOURAGING BUSINESSES TO DIRECT SALES TAX COLLECTION ALLOWANCES TO THE "EDUCATIONAL ENHANCEMENT TRUST FUND FOR CLASSROOM TECHNOLOGY," AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

**WHEREAS**, Broward Schools can benefit by receiving additional funds if businesses elect to direct their sales tax collection allowances to the Educational Enhancement Trust Fund as those funds can be used to purchase up-to-date technology and for the training of the teachers in that technology within their District; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Davie wants to inform businesses of the opportunity to elect to direct these revenues to the Schools in Broward County for this use and to encourage them to do so; and

**WHEREAS**, it is estimated that the funds that will come back to Broward County if businesses check the box option on their sales and use tax return forms is between \$4 and \$6 million annually; and

## NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF DAVIE:

Section 1. The Town of Davie hereby encourages businesses to direct their sales tax collection allowances to the Educational Enhancement Trust Fund for Classroom Technology by checking the appropriate box on their sales and use tax forms so that these funds can be spent on technology in Broward County Schools.

<u>Section 2.</u> Copies of this resolution are to be sent to the Broward County Commission, the School Board of Broward County, Davie Cooper City Chamber of Commerce, Davie Merchants and Industrial Association, and information pertaining to this program is to be placed on the Town's website and Davie TV.

Section 3.	This resolution shall take	effect immediately upon ad	option.
PASSED AN	D ADOPTED THIS	_ DAY OF	, 2008
		MAYOR/COU	NCILMEMBER
ATTEST:			
Town Clerk			

9. Amount Due With Return (Enter this amount on front)	8. Less (-) Collection Allowance; or if Late, Plus (+) Penalty and Interest	7. Total Tax Due	6. Less DOR Credit Memo	5. Less Lawful Deductions	Total Tax Collected     Include Discretionary Surtax from Line B)	<ol> <li>Taxable Sales/Purchases (Include Internet/Out-of-State → Purchases)</li> </ol>	2. Exempt Sales (Include these in Gross Seles, Line 1)	1. Gross Sales (Do not include tax)	
	rest							DOLLARS	
	Check here If donating collect	B. Total Discretionary Sales Surtax Collected	A. Taxable Sales and Purchases NOT Subject to DISCRETIONARY SALES SILETAY	Discretionary Sales Surtax Information		Signature of Preparer	Signature of Taxpayer	Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have read this return and the facts stated in it are true (sections 92.525(2), 212.12, and 837.06, Florida Statutes).	
Please do not fold or staple.	If donating collection allowance to education, and leave Line 8 blank.			ation		Date	Date	nat I have read this return tions 92.525(2), 212.12, and	



# Florida Department of Revenue Tax Information Publication

TIP

No: 06A01-20

Date Issued: November 15, 2006



# You May Now Elect to Donate Your Collection Allowance to the "Educational Enhancement Trust Fund for Classroom Technology"

Sales and use tax dealers who are entitled to a collection allowance may now elect to **donate** their collection allowance to the Educational Enhancement Trust Fund. The revenues deposited into this trust fund will go to the school districts that have adopted resolutions stating that these funds will be used to ensure that:

- Up-to-date technology is purchased for the classrooms in those districts; and
- The teachers are trained in the use of this technology.

The election only applies when the dealer making the election files a timely sales and use tax return. If a dealer making the election files a delinquent return, underpays the tax, or files an incomplete return, the amount transferred into the Educational Enhancement Trust Fund will be the amount remaining after resolution of any tax, interest, or penalty due.

Currently, sales and use tax filers are entitled to a collection allowance of 2.5 percent of the first \$1,200 of tax due (a maximum of \$30) as <u>compensation</u> for keeping prescribed records, filing timely returns, conducting proper accounting, and remitting taxes timely.

To implement this election, the Department has modified the sales and use tax return forms (DR-15 and DR-15EZ) to include a "check box option" on each return beginning with the January 2007 return. This election will also be available for electronic filers. A taxpayer who checks this box will be directing the Department to deposit the dealer's collection allowance allowed for that return (a maximum of \$30) into the Educational Enhancement Trust Fund. Taxpayers who wish to donate their collection allowance to education must make this election on EACH original return filed. Once a return has been filed with the election to donate the collection allowance, the election CANNOT be rescinded for that return.

A taxpayer who makes the election and checks the check box on the return **SHOULD NOT** enter the collection allowance amount on the collection allowance line (DR-15, Line 11, and DR-15EZ, Line 8) of the return. When the taxpayer checks the check box and leaves Line 8 (DR-15EZ) or Line 11 (DR-15) blank, the Department will calculate the proper collection allowance and transfer this amount to the Educational Enhancement Trust Fund. The amount of the taxpayer's payment should agree with the amount due on the return, without a deduction for the collection allowance. See examples on the back of this TIP.

For taxpayers who file consolidated sales and use tax returns (electronically or paper), the "check box option" for making the election will be on the DR-15CON. This provides the consolidated filer with the ability to make the election at the consolidated level, rather than making individual elections for each location on the Form(s) DR-7. If the election box is checked on the DR-15CON, the dealer's total collection allowance allowed for the consolidated return will be transferred into the Educational Enhancement Trust Fund which will be distributed to school districts that have adopted such resolutions. Therefore, there will NOT be a "check box option" on the Form(s) DR-7. Consolidated dealers who make the election and check the election box on the DR-15CON SHOULD NOT enter the collection allowance amount on Line 11 of the Forms DR-7 or on Line 11 of the DR-15CON. The amount of the dealer's payment should agree with the amount due on the DR-15CON, without deduction for the collection allowance.

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# Businesses an make a difference with

Y BOB LEGG

You've likely heard that Florida ranks near the bottom when the 50 states are judged by the amount spent per student on public school education. Maybe you've even wondered how that was possible, given our growing economy and future workforce needs. Perhaps there was anger and/or sadness that Florida's children are without the resources to maximize their potential and may have difficulty competing in tomorrow's business world.

Troubling thoughts, to be sure, but probably a problem without a solution, right? Wrong.

As of Jan. 1, the business community has had a golden opportunity to help close the funding gap between what school boards statewide need to pay for technology programs, equipment, and educators and what they currently have. A recently announced initiative, "Send Your Sales Tax to School," enables individual businesses to positively impact K-12 students in their home counties by contributing dollars to

help modernize how and what is taught in the classroom.

The program encourages companies to contribute their collection fee to support technology, which studies show is the most effective way to teach a generation of students who have never known life without computers. There is significant potential to improve the quality of a public school education while also helping to ensure Florida's future workforce understands technology. Here's how it works:

Each month, businesses that collect sales tax for the state are able to claim a collection allowance fee (equal to 2.5 percent of the taxes collected or \$30, whichever figure is lower) for the time spent on accounting and filing returns.

While the money is not substantial for the individual company, and some are not even aware they are entitled to it, collectively \$61 million was retained by Florida businesses from June 30, 2005, to July 1, 2006.

The money generated from businesses that elect to "check here if

donating collection allowance to education" on their monthly sales tax forms will be distributed within the county where the company is based, if the local school board has passed a resolution stating the funds will be used to supplement technology resources. If the local school board has not passed the resolution, or if the taxpayer is filing from out-of-state, funds collected will be distributed equally among school districts that have passed the resolution.

The Broward County School Board was the first in Florida to adopt the resolution and the initiative could potentially generate more than \$4 million annually, based roughly on Broward contributions to the state's economy and significant buy-in from the local business community. Those dellars will be earmarked to fund the expansion of programs already in place and what Interim Superintendent Jim Notter refers to as "human capital," the teachers needed to bring technology to life for students in the classroom.

With technology changing as

rapidly as it does, even the most upto-date school districts can fall behind quickly. That's why it is imperative that businesses pay more than lip service to making a difference and why this campaign has been undertaken.

Anthropologist Margaret Mead is credited with saying, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

There is now a simple and inexpensive system in place for Florida businesses to be part of today's group of thoughtful, committed citizens and I encourage everyone to send their sales tax collection fees to school.

After all, there's \$61 million available if you just "check the box."

Bob Legg is the founding principa of Miller Legg, a consulting firm. Reach him about the "Send Your Sales Tax to School" initiative at 954-436-7909, ext. 264.

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